#### STATE OF ARIZONA

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# DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

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In the Matter of:	) Docket no	98A-061-INS
ROBERT GALE ONGLEY,	) ORDER	>0V-001-11/2
Respondent.	)	

On June 18, 1998, the Office of Administrative Hearings, through Administrative Law Judge Casey J. Newcomb submitted Recommended Decision of the Administrative Law Judge ("Recommended Decision"), a copy of which is attached and incorporated by this reference. The Director of the Arizona Department of Insurance has reviewed the Recommended Decision and enters the following order:

- 1. The recommended findings of fact and conclusions of law are adopted.
- 2. Robert Gale Ongley's application for an insurance adjuster's license is denied.

#### NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS

The aggrieved party may request a rehearing with respect to this Order by filing a written petition with the Office of Administrative Hearings within 30 days of the date of this Order, setting forth the basis for such relief pursuant to A.A.C. R20-6-114(B).

The final decision of the Director may be appealed to the Superior Court of Maricopa County for judicial review pursuant to A.R.S. § 20-166. A party filing an appeal must notify the Office of

Administrative Hearings of the appeal within ten days after filing the complaint commencing the appeal, 1 pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1092.10. 2 DATED this 26 of June, 1998 3 4 5 John A. Greene 6 Director of Insurance A copy of the foregoing mailed 7 this 24 day of June, 1998 8 Charles R. Cohen, Deputy Director Gregory Y. Harris, Executive Assistant Director 9 John Gagne, Assistant Director Catherine O'Neil, Assistant Director 10 Scott Greenberg, Business Administrator Maureen Catalioto, Supervisor 11 Department of Insurance 2910 N. 44th Street, Suite 210 12 Phoenix, AZ 85018 13 Office of Administrative Hearings 1700 W. Washington, Suite 602 14 Phoenix, AZ 85007 15 Roger T. Martindale Assistant Attorney General 16 1275 West Washington Phoenix, AZ 85007 17 Robert Gale Ongley 18 4312 Blacksmith Street Tucson, AZ 85741 19 20 21 22 23

### IN THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

In the Matter of:

Robert Gale Ongley,

Respondent.

Docket No. 98A-061-INS

RECOMMENDED DECISION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

On June 15, 1998, a hearing was held on the denial of the Petitioner's application for an adjuster's license. Robert Gale Ongley (the "Petitioner") appeared on his own behalf. Assistant Attorney General Roger T. Martindale represented the Arizona Department of Insurance (the "Department"). Evidence and testimony were presented. Based upon a review of the entire record, the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Recommended Decision are made.

#### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. On or about January 9, 1998, the Department received from the Petitioner an Application for an Individual Insurance License (the "Application"). See State's Exhibit 1.
- 2. In the Application, the Petitioner disclosed that he had been previously convicted of a felony. <u>Id.</u> The Petitioner further explained that in 1969, he had been convicted of attempted robbery with an accomplice while armed. See State's Exhibit 1a.
- 3. On or about April 3, 1998, the Department denied the Application pursuant to A.R.S. §§20-290(B)(6) and 20-312(A). See State's Exhibit 9.
- 4. On or about April 15, 1998, the Petitioner timely filed with the Department a Notice of Appeal regarding the Department's denial of the Application. See State's Exhibit 10.
- 5. On June 15, 1998, a hearing was held regarding the Department's denial of the Petitioner's Application.
- 6. The Petitioner testified that he was charged in the state of Pennsylvania for attempted robbery with an accomplice while armed. The Petitioner testified that he was sentenced

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in prison for 1.5 to six years. The Petitioner testified that he was released on parole in November of 1970. The Petitioner testified that he was released from parole in February of 1973.

- 7. The Petitioner testified that he was only 19 years old when his friend persuaded him to drive the getaway car for a robbery of a bank. The robbery failed. Fortunately, nobody was injured. The Petitioner testified that he chose to drive the getaway car so that he would not have to shoot anybody. The Petitioner testified that he had a clean criminal record prior to his conviction. More importantly, the Petitioner testified that he has had a clean criminal record since his release from prison.
- 8. The Petitioner testified that after he was released from parole, he eventually became a church counselor in California for seven years. The Petitioner testified that in 1981 he started a janitorial business which he eventually sold in 1988. The Petitioner testified that he also married and started a family.
- 9. The Petitioner testified that (upon the sale of his janitorial business) he trained to become an insurance adjuster in California with David Morse & Associates. The Petitioner testified that he worked in California as an insurance adjuster from 1988 to 1995.
- 10. The Petitioner testified that he moved to Tucson, Arizona in November of 1995. The Petitioner testified that he continued to work for David Morse & Associates. The Petitioner testified that he was warned by his supervisor (in 1995) that he had six months to obtain an insurance license from the State of Arizona to be an insurance adjuster.
- 11. The Petitioner conceded that he did not timely apply for an insurance license because he was "distracted" by personal financial problems at home. The Petitioner also conceded that he procrastinated in applying for the insurance license. The Petitioner testified that he started the application process in May or June of 1996. The Petitioner testified that he (1) had his picture taken; (2) was fingerprinted; and (3) sent for his criminal records in Pennsylvania.
- 12. The Petitioner testified that he submitted at least two applications to David Morse & Associates that eventually were returned to him. Apparently, the applications were rejected for insufficient information. It is unclear to the undersigned Administrative Law

Judge if it was the Department or the employer that actually rejected these applications. Unfortunately, the Petitioner could submit no documentation showing that these applications were actually submitted to the Department.

- 13. The Petitioner testified that he worked as a part-time insurance adjuster from November of 1995 to June of 1996. The Petitioner testified that he worked as a full-time insurance adjuster from June of 1996 to when he submitted his Application. The Petitioner testified that he submitted the Application in November or December of 1997.
- 14. The undersigned Administrative Law Judge finds that the Petitioner has a record of conviction by final judgment of a felony involving moral turpitude. However, the undersigned Administrative Law Judge further finds that the Petitioner's felony conviction by itself probably would not be grounds for denying his Application because (1) the Petitioner committed the felony almost 30 years ago when he was only 19 years old; (2) the Petitioner served his time; (3) the Petitioner has had a clean criminal record since his conviction; (4) the Petitioner served as a church counselor for seven years; and (5) the Petitioner has contributed in a positive way to society as a businessman and family man.
- 15. However, the undersigned Administrative Law Judge cannot overlook the fact that the Petitioner willfully acted as an insurance adjuster for over two years without a proper license.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. The Petitioner has a record of conviction by final judgment of a felony involving moral turpitude within the meaning of A.R.S. §§20-290(B)(6) & 20-316(A)(6).
- 2. The Petitioner willfully acted as an insurance adjuster for over two years without a proper license (and without paying the proper licensing fees) in violation of A.R.S. §§20-312(A), 20-107(A), 20-312(B), and 20-316(A)(2).
- 3. The above determinations provide grounds for the Director to exercise his discretion in refusing to issue an insurance adjuster's license pursuant to A.R.S. §§20-290(B).

# RECOMMENDED DECISION

Based upon the forgoing, the undersigned Administrative Law Judge recommends that the Director deny the Petitioner's Application (received by the Department on January 9, 1998) for an insurance adjuster's license.

Done this day, June 18, 1998.

Casey J. Newcomb Administrative Law Judge

Original transmitted by mail this day of June, 1998, to:

Mr. John A. Greene, Director Department of Insurance 2910 North 44th Street, Ste. 210 Phoenix, AZ 85018 ATTN: Curvey Burton

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